Anies Rasyid Baswedan’s Political Communication in Facing the 2024 Election

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ANIES RASYID BASWEDAN’S POLITICAL COMMUNICATION IN FACING THE 2024 ELECTION

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Abstract

This study analyzes how Anies Rasyid Baswedan’s political communication is in preparation for the upcoming 2024 elections. In this study, we used a qualitative strategy that incorporated the Qualitative Data Analysis (QDA) Miner methodology into our content, network, and cloud analysis using the Nvivo 12 Plus software. The results of this study indicate that account intensity also describes how Anies Rasyid Baswedan carries out political communication or branding activities. The @aniesbaswedan account has the most significant overall and quarterly tweet intensity, with 79.65% of tweets having a restoration sub-theme. This account also has the highest power for the total number of tweets. The 2024 election subtheme generated 11.43% of tweets; finally, the political subtheme was 9.52%. In analyzing the contents of information dissemination related to Anies Rasyid Baswedan’s political communication, his account has carried out direct outreach regarding politics in the face of the 2024 election. In the end, social media has become a place to share political information about Anies Rasyid Baswedan.

Keywords: Anies Rasyid Baswedan; Communication; Politics; 2024 Elections.
A. Introduction

The dynamics of political communication with the presence of the Internet show a significant development (Ricks, 2022). The signs may be observed in the growth of political communication activities on social media during election campaigns (Mukarom, 2022). These developments include campaign activities for the General Election and Presidential Election through social networking media, which continue to grow. Although traditional and other conventional media or face-to-face media, audio, audio-visual, and print media remain on the surface, socialization is through social media. Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and other social media seem to have become a growing need (Sutinen & Närvänen, 2022).

An essential factor in the success of dialogue on political issues using networked social media platforms such as Twitter, among other things, is conveying politically colored messages, called political communication (Campos-domínguez et al., 2023), to influence public opinion. It should not come as a surprise that the government uses social media as a form of communication, given the widespread availability of such platforms, political parties, activists, and professionals (Studies, 2022). A crucial element of political campaigning today is using social media platforms to keep the general public informed about the political activities of candidates or incumbents (Setiyaningsih et al., 2023). Political parties use social media to advance their political goals because it is the media that can influence the opinions of various audiences (Theocharis & Jungherr, 2021). Its usage is also growing in Indonesia due to the growing number of individuals utilizing social media in Indonesia, particularly the political interests that also embellish it. It contributes to the rise in its prevalence (Yijuan, 2022).

New media is the future media in the political communication process in Indonesia because it is cheap, easy to access, fast, and allows direct interaction with communicators (Campos-domínguez et al., 2023). Social media’s effect on public opinion is significant (Heiss et al., 2019). It is much faster to send messages via social media when promoting politics
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(Casado-Aranda et al., 2022). Because of this, the realm of democracy has entered a new chapter in political communication because of the proliferation of social media (Elareshi et al., 2021). The purpose of social media as a medium of communication is to unite people (users) so that they actively contribute and comment freely (Gilardi et al., 2022), both to share information and provide feedback online promptly (Bidwell et al., 2019).

Twitter is a virtual platform in the field of digital communication in Indonesia because anyone can register an account there and engage in conversation about anything (Theocharis et al., 2020). The number of users continues to increase every day. As of March 2013, Twitter has 500 million users, with over 200 million actively using the platform. This figure now occupies the fifth position among most users on social networking networks. YouTube occupies the first place with 800 million users, Facebook with 680 million mobile users, QQ with 700 million monthly users, and Sina Weibo with 503 million users (Duncombe, 2019).

According to Morales (2020), the use of social media affects the electability, effectiveness, and popularity of politicians’ legislative candidates in the 2019 legislative elections. After that, the public can quickly gather information, argue, and determine which candidates are worthy of being voted for in the next election, thereby increasing the electability of these candidates. Twitter’s media use also significantly affects the effectiveness of political campaigns. The reason is that Twitter’s social media features enlarge the public space, transforming social networking sites into promotional media that involve the public through political agendas published on Twitter.

Duncombe (2019) suggests that politicians can increase their popularity through the social networking site Twitter. On these websites, candidates can convey political messages to gain and retain followers responsible for their increased popularity. Suppose the sequence of candidates posted on Twitter is found to be interesting. In that case, their supporters can share it with their friends, ultimately increasing the popularity of the political candidate among the public.
Political communication on various social media platforms is determined by the actions of several individuals (Castanho Silva & Proksch, 2022). The general public, partisans, and politicians engage in the ongoing conversation, resulting in complex communication patterns (Frimer et al., 2022). These interactions are influenced, along with generation, by platform design and algorithms, which bad actors influence (Kariryaa et al., 2022).

Studies that research Anies Rasyid Baswedan’s political communication are still limited. Frimer et al. (2022) focus on Speech Act Analysis on Hate Speech Comments on Anies Rasyid Baswedan’s Twitter, then ahead of the presidential election 2024. Kurniawati et al. (2022) focus on the representation of the identity of political actors in the social media analysis of Anies Baswedan, Ridwan Kamil, and Ganjar Pranowo’s Instagram accounts, while Azka et al. (2023) focus on political communication of presidential candidate, Anies Baswedan, towards the 2024 election through social media Instagram. To bridge this knowledge gap and better understand Anies Rasyid Baswedan’s perspective on political communication in facing the 2024 election, which social and political science researchers are researching, we fill in the gaps in this research by storing data via social media Twitter.

B. Method

Twitter has developed into a communication medium, enabling users to form a communication network (Kurniawan et al., 2021). Continuous communication creates various storylines from the user’s point of view, which can be seen in the resulting tweets (Ojala et al., 2019). Consequently, this study used qualitative techniques to analyze how Anies Rasyid Baswedan utilized Twitter. The researcher used qualitative strategies and structured approaches to examine content on Twitter and other social media platforms (Brekke & Thorbjørnsrud, 2018). This structured technique is a way to mine qualitative data using qualitative data analysis (QDA). It focuses on content, network, and cloud. According to Tofighi et al. (2020), qualitative data analysis (QDA) characterizes, categorizes, and relates phenomena to the researchers’ ideas.
In this research, the data source used was primary data. This research uses Google N-capture, a program created by QSR International, for data collection purposes. After that, Nvivo 12 Plus was used to further data mining of the resulting data. This research focused on the official Twitter account of Anies Rasyid Baswedan, which regularly provides new content. Anies Rasyid Baswedan’s official Twitter account, @aniesbaswedan, was the data source of this study. This study selected the official account by considering the account’s authenticity, which was monitored regularly.

One of the software programs used for tools-assisted qualitative data analysis (also known as CAQDA) is called Nvivo 12 Plus (Hai-Jew, 2019). Nvivo 12 Plus takes advantage of word frequency characteristics, group analysis, and text analysis of research data when performing data analysis (Salahuddin et al., 2020).

Data from social media platforms come in various formats and sizes, in contrast to traditional data. Therefore, an analytical tool is needed to investigate data from social media (Alfatease et al., 2021). For this research, our analytical tool of choice was Nvivo 12 Plus. Nvivo 12 Plus is software that, according to Edhlun (2019), can assist researchers in processing and understanding qualitative data better. The data analyzed from the results of data mining through social media Twitter was by looking at, first, the profile account @aniesbaswedan; second, the intensity of tweets and retweets; third, quarterly information intensity; fourth, seven popular hashtags; fifth, account word cloud focusing on issues; and sixth, intensity of presence sub-theme political communication on @aniesbaswedan account.

C. Result and Discussion

Theoretically, we have proven that the subject matter of political communication is an essential and distinguishable part of the existing topics. As a platform for political communication, academics have developed a growing interest in the character and variety of online political discourse. The emotional power of digital communication is significant.
1. Account Intensity in Information Dissemination

As can be observed, the presence of each account in the process of sharing information has been carried out for years. @aniesbaswedan account joined Twitter social media in February 2010. The graph below also shows that Anies Rasyid Baswedan’s official statement is connected to various Twitter accounts by the number of followers is 4.8 M. This indicates that the account in question is original and is used by Anies Rasyid Baswedan as his official social media platform. Even the account @aniesbaswedan on Twitter has been given a verified account status, meaning it gets recognition as a valid account.

![Anies Rasyid Baswedan Twitter Profile](image)

**Figure 1. Account profile view**
Source: Twitter data processed by author

To achieve the most effective dissemination rate, focusing consistently on all tweets appearing in the dissemination stage —@aniesbaswedan Twitter account activity level – is necessary. Information on Anies Rasyid Baswedan’s tweets and retweets can be used to show the extent to which Anies Rasyid Baswedan carries out political communication through Twitter’s social media.
The following figure presents the categorization of tweets, retweets generated due to an account’s tweet, and retweet activities. The @aniesbaswedan account had 1588 tweets and 1145 retweets, which can be seen by the total number of tweets and retweets resulting from those tweets, according to the interpretation of Moro et al. (2023). The tweet content generated by the account can reflect and describe the tasks and responsibilities played by the account. Consequently, the high intensity of the performance in the tweet section also shows that this account can produce content independently. Ultimately, the material is intended for everyone who uses the Twitter social media platform.

As shown in Figure 3 below, the volume of information related to each account is also displayed every three months. Compared to the intensity created quarterly by the @aniesbaswedan account, when it comes to the dissemination of information, the operational level of the @aniesbaswedan account has a much higher intensity overall. On the @aniesbaswedan account, the most information was generated from October to December 2022, with 5.60%, while the tiniest information was generated from the quarter of January to March 2023, with 2.34%.

Elareshi et al. (2021) suggest that the open access of the Twitter social media network allows its users to interact with each other through the contents of the tweets they upload by replying to messages, liking
messages, and even being able to resend tweet messages. It allows buzzers and celebrities to participate in revitalizing public conversations, which can reap pros and cons in any topic of discussion.

The highest number of tweets was developed during the July-September 2021 quarter. Meanwhile, from January to March 2022, it generated 3.73% of tweets, then in the April to June quarter, it produced 4.54% of tweets, and finally, in the July quarter to September, as many as 4.65 tweets. The social media platform Twitter has a wide presence. It creates a new participatory space where people, especially politicians in Indonesia, can be involved in campaigns through social media. Connective networks among young people active on social media are seen as reasonably lively and minimal when viewed from a digital native perspective. The connection moves very fast, creating a participatory environment and providing possibilities for young people to play a role in efforts to build communication narratives on a large scale in online social networks such as Twitter.

The existence of social media is not only seen as an obstacle but also the potential for developing new ideas and ensuring that every activity and campaign in Indonesia gets maximum attention (Ahmad et al., 2023). Given the rapid pace of technical innovations that bring more innovation and efficiency, this combination is essential, especially for understanding new media and communication networks (Heiss et al., 2019).
2. Dominant Hashtags that Appear on the @aniesbaswedan Account

The dominance of hashtags is one of the crucial aspects that must be emphasized in any social media account research, especially Twitter because it is one of the most important things. The presence of specific hashtags in each account offers a summary of the nature of the material provided. Show how the concerns raised on each account became the focal point of subsequent tweets and retweets sent because of the information being circulated.

Table 1. Seven popular hashtags in the account

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Twitter Account</th>
<th>Hashtag Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>@aniesbaswedan</td>
<td>#jakartakotaglobal</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>8.75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>#jagajakarta</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>8.13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>#aniesbaswedan</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>6.96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>#dkijakarta</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>6.23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>#untukindonesia</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>6.05%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>#jakartabangkit</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>5.15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>#jaklingko</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>2.44%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: NVivo 12 plus

Table 1, shown above, compares the number of attempts made by each account to develop hashtags. The #jakartakotaglobal hashtag accounted for the most significant proportion used on the @aniesbaswedan account, totaling 8.75%, while #jagajakarta had 8.13. On the other hand, the hashtag #aniesbaswedan got 6.96. Furthermore, the #dkijakarta hashtag had a capacity of 6.23%, #forIndonesia with a total of 6.05%, #jakartabangkit 5.15%, and #jaklingko 2.44%. The use of tweets affects information dissemination on Twitter social media (Zahidi, 2023). The tweet also affects the distribution of content, thus triggering other social media users to be actively involved and participate in political discourse related to corruption in Indonesia. Such activism tends to mobilize other social media users and, at the same time, influences collectivity interest in the anti-corruption movement in Indonesia. The existence of the tweet also shows how collectivist culture can transform the digital realm (Rajandran & Lee, 2022).
Hashtags can affect every active user on Twitter social media, including young people. Young people dare to put a hashtag (#) on any information content on Twitter related to corruption cases. They have many options or choices to maximize the use of application features on Twitter and add their creative ideas to show their identity and existence in the developing political discourse. Twitter and young people have an inseparable relationship, especially the interest in the anti-corruption movement in Indonesia (Zahidi, 2023; Samosir, 2022).

Figure 4. Focus issue in @aniesbaswedan account
Source: Nvivo 12 Plus

The frequency of words on the @aniesbaswedan account was dominated by material related to Jakarta. It was shown by several keywords, including “Jakarta”, “Jagajakarta”, “dki”, and “Indonesia”. The @aniesbaswedan account generates keyword frequencies that reflect Anies Baswedan’s majority of activities because Jakarta is his most extensive base for conducting political communication through social media. However, the accounts include various information provided for their political interests.
In the developing political discourse, the political expression of politicians is also very much determined by the political situation, including the issues disseminated through social media Twitter in Indonesia. Several political communication styles discussed by politicians in Indonesia were initially distributed to the public on social media platforms, and these impact target audiences.

Based on Figure 5 above, the restoration information sub-theme generated the most information on the @aniesbaswedan account, reaching 79.65% of tweets. The 2024 election sub-theme produced 11.43% of tweets; finally, the political sub-theme amounted to 9.52%. Politicians’ political expressions have different characteristics, seen from their character, which grow together with the emergence of various social media platforms. It confirms that changes in political communication also follow technological developments (Plantin & Punathambekar, 2018). The emergence of internet technology also helps initiate the action of social media, and this situation is now slowly legitimizing political activism in digital spaces (De Vries et al., 2021). This situation also has an impact on opening up opportunities for the public to show different attitudes and expressions in the developing political discourse, especially around the politicians’ campaigns in Indonesia (Saputro et al., 2023; Ahmad et al., 2023).

Figure 5. The intensity of the presence of political communication sub-themes on the @aniesbaswedan account
Source: Processed using NVivo 12 plus by the author
The @aniesbaswedan account had the most significant overall intensity of tweets and the resulting quarterly tweet intensity, with 79.65% of tweets having the restoration sub-theme. This account also had the highest number of tweets. In addition, political communication can be seen from the frequency of words that indicate other approaches that have been present and will undoubtedly provide support for the upcoming election process as political branding. It is hoped that political communications conveyed through social media can assist in facing the forthcoming 2024 elections.

The current use of social media is for more than just interacting and seeking information in general. Still, it has also become a tool used by politicians, political parties, and political candidates to actively participate in political communication, especially during election campaigns, to get lots of votes and achieve victory or spread the issue about the restoration of Indonesia today (Campos-domínguez et al., 2023). In general, marketing communication channels, such as newspapers, advertisements, radio, and billboards, are starting to be replaced by the internet and social media services as the primary channels from companies to their customers; politicians in general election campaigns also adopt this change (Bidwell et al., 2019).
D. Conclusion

Anies Rasyid Baswedan’s social media account is a consistent medium for communicating with other users. In addition, social media and Twitter are a means of disseminating information. Account intensity also describes how Anies Rasyid Baswedan carries out political communication or branding activities. For the highest total intensity of tweets and the resulting quarterly tweet intensity, the @aniesbaswedan account has the highest intensity, reaching 79.65% of tweets with the restoration sub-theme. The 2024 election sub-theme generated 11.43% of tweets; finally, the political sub-theme amounted to 9.52%. In analyzing the content of the information spread related to Anies Rasyid Baswedan’s political communications, his account has carried out direct outreach regarding politics in the face of the 2024 election. Ultimately, social media has become one medium for sharing Anies Rasyid Baswedan’s political information.

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